

Thursday, September 23, 2010
Missouri School for the Blind (MSB)
St. Louis, MO

Jennie Mascheck
Outreach Services, MSB

Welcoming Students with Visual Impairment to Your School

This session is intended to provide information to teachers and paraprofessionals who are or will be providing services to students with visual impairments. The training will use *Welcoming Students with Visual Impairment to Your School: A Guide for Training Public School Personnel and Families about the Needs of Students with Visual Loss* published by Perkins School for the Blind as a framework. Topics will include an overview for teachers and paraprofessionals of the abilities and needs of a student with visual impairment and begin to help them to develop their own accommodations to meet the needs of individual students who attend their school. Additional topics will include orientation and mobility and social skills.

Tentative Agenda

8:30-8:45	Welcome/Introductions/Housekeeping
8:45-9:30	Types of visual impairment Definitions related to vision loss Visual impairments commonly seen in students Effects of visual impairments on learning Resources
9:30-9:45	Break
9:45-11:15	Programming for students with visual impairment The expanded core curriculum Functional vision and learning media assessment Learning through the senses (visual, tactile, auditory, and more)
11:15-12:00	The learning environment, educational materials, equipment and accommodations Resources Action Planning
12:00-1:30	Lunch-Off Campus

1:30-2:30	<p>Orientation and Mobility (O&M)</p> <p>What are O&M skills?</p> <p>Why are O&M skills important?</p> <p>Why teach O&M skills?</p> <p>Action Planning</p>
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-3:15	<p>Social Skills</p> <p>Understanding how visual impairment can limit access to incidental learning</p> <p>The role of vision and hearing in the acquisition of social skills</p> <p>Common social skills demands</p> <p>Adult roles in facilitating social skills development</p> <p>Action Planning</p>
3:15-3:30	Evaluation/Follow-up